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Hawk's Herald - January 26, 2004

Roger Williams University

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HAWK'S HERALD

Volume 14, Issue 10

Roger Williams University

Monday, January 26, 2004

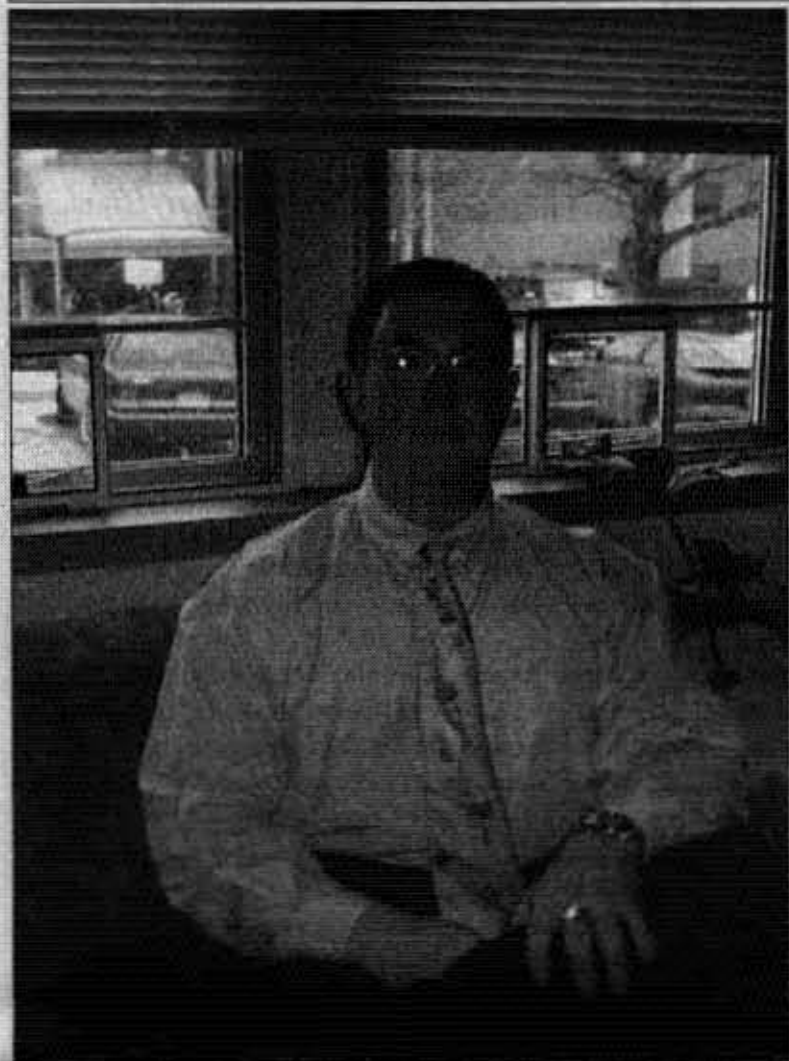


Photo by Jason Turcotte

Richard Stegman, Dean of Student Affairs, will be leaving his position at RWU in July. Stegman has been part of administration for more than ten years.

Dean's final semester at RWU; search underway for new position

By Jason Turcotte

Co-Editor

After a decade with Roger Williams University, Dean of Student Affairs Richard Stegman has opted to move onto future endeavors. Stegman wrestled with relocating back home for a great part of the fall 2003 semester and his decision surprised much of the university community. Stegman's administrative sabbatical takes effect July 1, 2004.

"I think as I've gotten older there's a stronger need to be with my family," said Stegman, who moved away from the small town of Bellevue, Ohio at 18 years of age. The desire Stegman has to return to his roots and his need to complete the dissertation of his Ph.D drove the dean to his decision.

According to Stegman, it would be simply impossible to complete his dissertation and maintain his position at the university. "It is kind of a 24-7 job," he noted. Stegman said that he is now in a financially strong enough position to take a year off to complete his dissertation and says the decision is a timely one also due to the fact his parents are battling through some health issues back home. However, the decision was a difficult one to make, said Stegman.

"It's not a boring, status-quo environment. It's very engaging," Stegman said of his job. He also said it is more exciting to work at RWU than ever before and believes in the direction in which President Roy Nirschel and Provost Edward Kavanagh are leading the university. RWU, says Stegman, has

made "significant progress on so many levels."

Stegman's fondest memories at the university include two trips he made to visit abroad students in Rome, recollecting the warm reception he received during his visits. He also looks back fondly on RWU's College Prep program. The program used to bring students to campus during the summer; students who needed remedial refinement to prepare them for college level academics. While Stegman said much of his service at RWU has been positive, added it is a learning experience.

"There are many things I would've done differently. I won't go into details, but it's a learning process," said Stegman. He noted that with each year of experience, he found he had less

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"Common area" damage policy up for debate

By Garry Dow

Science Editor

Melissa Arroyo was reading in her Stonewall room after dinner last year when she heard the sound of glass shattering, followed by the heavy thud of footsteps racing down the hallway. By the time she got outside the perpetrator was gone, never to be seen or heard from again.

Outside her room, Arroyo found that the protective pane of glass used to guard the fire extinguisher was smashed to pieces.

Fire-retardant foam from the exhausted extinguisher coated the hallway. Jagged pieces of glass, smeared with blood, littered the floor.

Moments later, resident assistants arrived on the scene. The next day bright green signs appeared near entrances to Stonewall announcing the damage and the cost to its residents unless the guilty party was identified. As a result, Arroyo, along with her floor-mates, was charged \$30 in accordance with the

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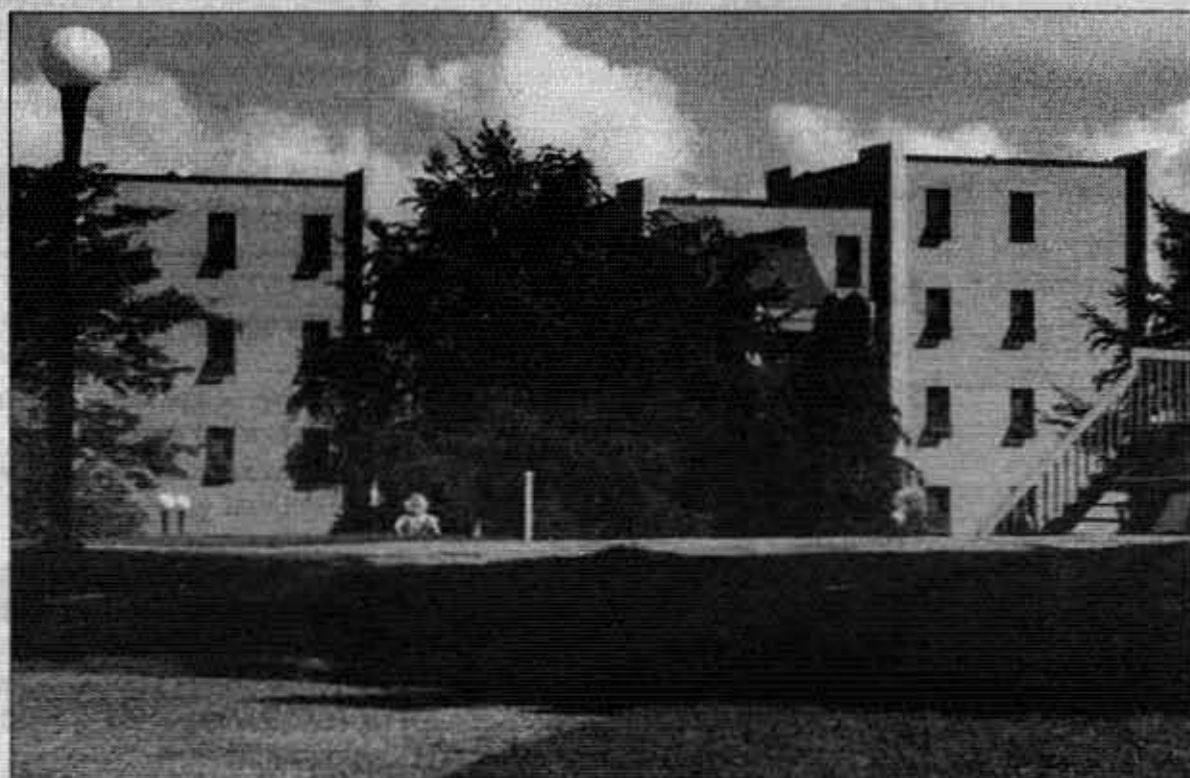


Photo by Jason Turcotte

Dorms like Maple Hall, seen above, are often targets of vandalism, resulting in students paying a higher price to live there.



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OPINION

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To the Editor:

I have never logged on to ratemyprofessors.com, and I never intend to visit the Web site because I consider it Internet trash. I urge my colleagues and RWU students to avoid the site as well.

Unfortunately, Jason Turcotte's article in the November 17, 2003, edition of *Hawk's Herald* suggest that ratemyprofessors.com, developed by John Swapceinski, is a legitimate way of evaluating faculty. A closer look at Mr. Turcotte's article, however, reveals that this Web site is just what I've called it: Internet trash.

First, I reject Mr. Swapceinski's basic premise—that students are "consumers" and professors are the "products" that these "consumers" are "purchasing." I am not a product, nor do I play one in the classroom. If students are looking for a "product," let them go to a shopping mall, not a university. I don't peddle knowledge, and I don't sell credits or grades. If I did, I would auction "A" grades to the highest bidders and fail students who refused to come across with extra cash for the professor during final exam week.

Mr. Swapceinski's method of soliciting information about professors is unscientific and unfair. Mr. Turcotte's article suggests that a professor's rating can be based on as few as five student responses. My students inform me that they can rate a professor on ratemyprofessors.com even if they do not have that professor for a course. In fact, I surmise that if I have a grudge against Professor Jones because he beat me to a parking space this morning, I can log on to ratemyprofessors.com and record nasty things about him. The students whom I fail and the students whom I have caught plagiarizing can exact revenge against me on ratemyprofessor.com. Further evidence of the trash value of this Web site is its inclusion, for whatever reason, of an insulting "hot" rating for professors. (For students who are concerned, my own body temperature is a fairly consistent 98.6 degrees. It increases somewhat in class when I engage students in a worthwhile discussion of some noteworthy literary text.)

RWU offers students a method for evaluating their professors. About ten weeks into the semester, students are invited to complete a fairly detailed questionnaire about their courses and their professors. RWU's evaluation system is far from perfect, but at least it solicits evaluations from a representative number of students who are actually enrolled in a professor's class. And RWU's evaluation form does not demean students of their professors by asking students who is hot and who is not. Faculty members and the RWU administration take these evaluations very seriously.

I urge my colleagues and RWU students to steer clear of Mr. Swapceinski's trash Web site and to pay it no mind. As president of the RWU Faculty Association, I strongly advise the RWU administration to ignore ratemyprofessors.com in the evaluation of RWU faculty members.

James Tackach, Professor of English
President, RWU Faculty Association

To the editor:

I am one of the faculty members that Raj Saksena hired (in 1990) shortly after founding the School of Architecture. I thought it important to let others know that without Raj Saksena's vision, we may well not have had a School of Architecture, much less the school that you see today.

As a professor in today's School of Architecture, Art & Historic Preservation, I feel fortunate to have worked with Raj in the early years of my career. I especially appreciated the high standard that he set for scholarship and creative work, along with the support that he provided—moral and otherwise—in helping faculty to achieve that standard. He expected not only the best of the faculty, but also of the students and the institution.

The School's main building is the product of a competition that Raj organized, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. While designed by William Kite, this fine environment for learning and creative work is also the product of Raj's thoughts on architectural education. The School's highly-regarded "studio culture" and solid library resources can be ascribed in part to Raj's efforts to create the ideal setting for such an education. Raj's contribution to the school and more generally, to Roger Williams University, should never be forgotten.

Sincerely,
Gail Fenske
Professor of Architecture

NEWS

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Dean

cont. from front

regrets about the decisions he had made.

President Nirschel's fondest memory of his short time working with Stegman, came on Sept. 11, when they both walked through the residence halls to speak to students during the initial shock of the event. Nirschel added, "He has been particularly important through his national leadership in alcohol awareness and judicial matters."

After holding positions at

Pennsylvania State University, Drexel University, University of Delaware and Bowling Green University, Stegman was named director of student life at RWU. Stegman was promoted to assistant dean of students and earned the title of dean of student affairs just over three years ago.

In a faculty announcement Provost Kavanagh wrote, "Both the President and I wish him the best in his future endeavors. We will both miss his professional expertise, advice and strong student advocacy."

According to Nirschel,

Stegman's position will be renamed as vice president, directly reporting to himself. Robert Avery, vice president of human resources, will lead a national search. Final applicants will meet with students, faculty and staff before a candidate is chosen and a decision is expected to finalize by the end of the spring semester.

Stegman said he does not anticipate returning to RWU, but gives this advice to those who fill his position: "To not always just follow your logic or head, but also at times to follow your heart."

questioned if fairness was really even an issue. According to Blackburn, a community that shares the benefits of living together should also share the blame.

"If everyone suffers together, then you really can't say it is unfair. Everyone's in the same boat. By not helping to preserve community, we are not doing our service to the community."

For Blackburn, it is ultimately a question of what's financially feasible versus what is morally right. "When it's a nickel no cares. When it's a hundred dollars everyone's complaining it's unfair."

Blackburn likened the dilemma to a vandal who decimates a gravestone. If the gravestone is in a public cemetery, he said, taxes go up. If it is in a private cemetery, plot rates go up.

The current damage policy is comparable to the private cemetery—residents only pay for what happens on their floor or in their sweet. If the policy was amended and the school began picking up the tab, it would be comparable to a public cemetery. Either way, residents end up footing the bill.

According to Cliff

holes in the walls, dumpster fires, broken fire extinguishers and graffiti as frequent damages.

The cost for even the pettiest damage can cost residents substantial amounts of money to fix. Each year the university spends more than \$2,000 on paint alone, most of which is used to repair areas repeatedly subject to damages.

"The total cost that gets passed onto students is a combination of damage plus labor, with a minimum four hours labor at a rate that falls somewhere between \$15 and \$30 per hour depending on the time of day," said Goulet.

Proponents of the policy argue that spreading the cost over the entire community lessens the blow for everyone. In Stonewall, for instance, each floor has approximately 40 people per floor, so the cost to an individual resident is usually about one-fortieth of the total damage cost. In addition, residents pay an annual damage deposit of \$350, which covers the cost of damages.

In an effort to encourage students to come forward, the Department of Student Life sometimes offers rewards to students who have information.

"This year there have been several dumpster fires and we are currently offering a reward of \$100 to anyone who can help identify the responsible parties," said Montefusco.

Roughly half of all the investigations conducted on campus, with respect to common area damage, are resolved when the guilty party simply steps in and takes responsibility for the damage.

Still, for every person who takes responsibility for their actions, there is another person who does not. In this respect, a substantial portion of the overall debate revolves around a question of enforcement and accountability.

Some people claim the damage policy, as it currently exists, minimizes the

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Common

cont. from front page

community damages policy currently in place at RWU.

"I understand someone had to pay for it," said Arroyo. "You have to take pride in the place where you live. It's too bad it couldn't be the guy who did it though."

Each year hundreds of residents across campus are affected by this policy. Common area damages extend to every residence hall on campus, and, in some cases, even extend to include areas outside the dormitory.

While some opponents argue it is unfair and irresponsible to charge students fees for damages they are not responsible for, supporters of the policy point out there is little alternative, and that ultimately the community as a whole must be held accountable.

Recently, students living at the King Phillip Hotel damaged a room in one of the towers. It was estimated that over \$12,000 worth of damage was done. In this case, the culprits were charged by Bristol Police and brought before a judge in district court for restitution damages.

But not all cases are as clear-cut and for some it boils down to an issue of fairness. "Most of the time it is obviously drunk fools who break the stuff. Still, the people who did nothing

are the ones punished. It's not fair," said senior Meagan Sage.

Sage is not alone. Many students feel the school has little right to bill residents who are not directly responsible. However, proponents of the policy, such as Housing Director Tony Montefusco, are quick to point out that RWU's damage policy is consistent with the damage policy of most other schools.

Montefusco also indicated that all residents sign the same housing contract when they move in, which states: "The student also agrees to be personally

not be identified, the people who share the area share the burden.

"We hate to bill people we know are not responsible," said Montefusco. "But sometimes it helps. It gives residents who know who did it incentive to come forward."

In cases when there are multiple damages over a period of time, the community damages policy may actually deter the perpetrator from continuing, even if he or she is never caught.

"In some cases, the people who are doing the damage live in the area, so they are paying along with

"We hate to bill people we know are not responsible," said Montefusco. "But sometimes it helps. It gives residents who know who did it incentive to come forward."

responsible for malicious damage, if the responsible person is not determined, which occurs in the common area of the University operated housing facilities on a prorated basis of the cost to repair the damage."

"This shall be assessed against the student by the Department of Student Life in an amount which, in the sole discretion of the Department of Student Life, represents the student's fair and proportionate share of the responsibility for such damage."

In short, when damage occurs in a common area, and the guilty person can-

everyone else," said Montefusco.

However, frequently the perpetrator doesn't share the common area and, therefore, is never held accountable. In the case of the fire extinguisher incident, Arroyo said, "I don't even think it was someone in our building."

Meagan Sage, an Almeida resident who lived in Stonewall last year, said "I understand that community pressure is supposed to keep damages from occurring, but it didn't. They kept happening."

Bob Blackburn, a Professor of Philosophy,

McGovern, coordinator of residential facilities, there are "hotspots" around campus where most of the malicious damage occurs. In an email, McGovern said, "Areas that have younger kids—freshmen—are more prone to damages, with most of the damages occurring between Thursday night and Sunday afternoon."

Surprisingly, Richard Goulet, director of facilities management, cited "vomit as the most frequent common area damage." In addition, Goulet listed ceiling tile damage, trash,

ENTERTAINMENT

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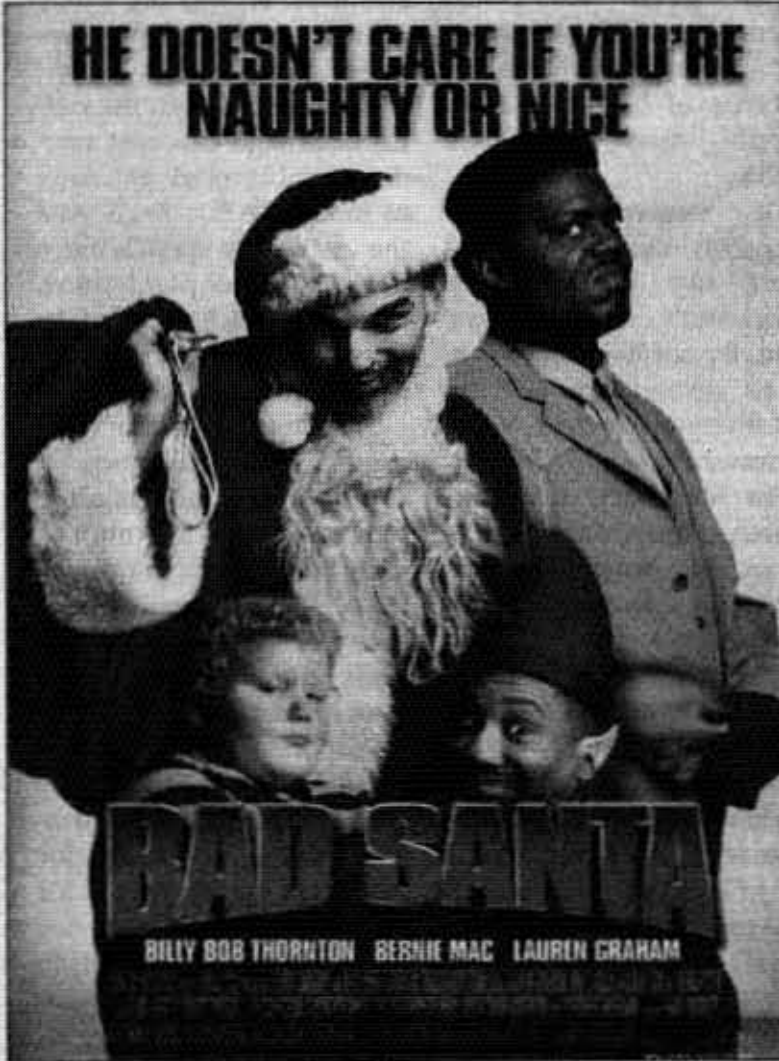


Photo courtesy of www.movies.yahoo.com

Educational Tours to take RWU students to Ireland

By Samantha Brownstein
Staff Writer

Educational Tours is a program that enables students to travel and experience an exciting learning opportunity. Professor of writing Katherine Hall and professor of history Jeffrey Meriwether are a part of this program. They have opened this opportunity to Roger William's students in hopes of creating a fun and educational environment.

After talking to Hall, she is extremely excited. She said that, "30 people have signed up." However, she expressed some concern about that number being too little. She explained this forces another group, preferably high school students to join the college students that have joined in

this venture. Educational Tours typically works more with high school students.

The trip to Ireland was so appealing that it was only right to offer it to Roger William's students. The departure date is slated for March 12, 2004. The total price for students is \$1,387 and is all inclusive. The program fee includes six over night stays, complete European breakfast and dinner daily, a full-time EF Tour Director, a sightseeing tour led by a licensed local guide, a EF walking tour, seven visits to special attractions, and three sightseeing briefings.

While talking to some students who are participating in the trip, specifically Megan Orciari, says she can't wait to see Ireland and share the experience with her friends.

Box office cashes in for big hits over the holidays; recap of Christmas flicks

By K. Joseph Dougherty
Staff Writer

If you are anything like me, there is one thing to look forward to during the holidays besides the presents: Christmas movies. And there was no shortage this holiday season. There were a few worth seeing, and there were more than a few that you should wait to see when they available to rent. Fortunately for you, I saw all of them and am here to give you the verdict.

As far as holiday movies go there are two main groups. There are movies that have nothing to do with the holidays but are released around Christmas purely for financial reasons and movies about Christmas. The former could include any genre: romance, adventure, comedy, or drama. *The Return of the King*, the final installment of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, certainly cleaned up in the box office and received critical acclaim but of course had nothing to do with Christmas. I enjoyed this movie a great deal and highly recommend it to anyone who likes a good adventure/fantasy film. Frodo (Elijah Wood) must destroy the ring to save Middle Earth and his friends. It is suspenseful and chock full of corny yet heartfelt performances.

The other big adventure films released during the 2003 holiday season were

The Last Samurai with Tom Cruise and *Master and Commander* with Russell Crowe. *Samurai* is a beautiful film with great cinematography on the landscape and battle scenes. Unfortunately, the ending was drawn out and over the top, but still worth renting. *Master and Commander* is a monumental disappointment in my eyes, the acting is sub-par and the pace of the movie is slow and methodical. The battle scenes between the two ships in the movie are exciting but a film needs more than cannons and pistols to be a success.

For the comedy genre, there was *Elf*, starring Will Ferrell and James Caan. This movie had some really funny parts (I loved the snowball fight and the chemistry between Caan and Ferrell) mixed in with some old-fashioned Christmas cheer. Ferrell is an orphaned child raised by elves that goes to New York to find his real father and live with him and his family. Caan plays the bumbag father whose Christmas cheer has been compromised by his greed and time spent at work. The movie is a bit ridiculous, but any movie with Will Ferrell is promised to be; overall a good film.

Bad Santa is a hysterical movie about two con men that have a scheme to rip off a mall by dressing up as Santa and his elf. Their plan is foiled by an eight-year-old who shows them the

true meaning of Christmas. Billy Bob Thornton and Tony Cox make a hysterical pair and work well together in this highly amusing comedy. Other comedies such as *Cat in the Hat* and The Farrelly brothers' *Stuck on You* are funny but not worth the nine dollars I had to cough up to see them.

My favorite holiday movie of the season was by far (even though I will certainly get a lot of grief from my friends) *Love Actually*. This romantic comedy is cheerful, touching, and hilarious at the same time. This UK import is entertaining from the first scene where the has-been rock star, played by Bill Nighy, is in studio singing a Christmas version of *Love is All Around*. *Love Actually* features an all-star ensemble cast including Hugh Grant as the Prime Minister of England, Colin Firth, Alan Rickman, Liam Neeson, the stunningly beautiful Keira Knightley and many more.

Love Actually is a character driven movie that searches the subject of love in the weeks leading up to Christmas from every possible angle. There is heartbreak and love between friends, family, co-workers and much more. I cannot praise this movie enough; you absolutely must see this hysterically touching film. Well that is it for the holiday movie review. Enjoy your film viewing.

New Releases

Blockbuster has your favorite movies - check out what's new:

One Upon a Time in Mexico (R)
Open Range (R)
Freddy vs. Jason (R)
Underworld (R)
Out of Time (PG13)
Uptown Girls (PG13)
American Wedding (R)

Upcoming Shows and Concerts

Sat., January 31 @
The Strand:
Chippendales
Tickets \$25 - 8 p.m.

Sat., January 31 @
The Roxy:
Stephen Lynch
Tickets \$20 - 7:30 p.m.

CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 10

Monday, January 26, 2004

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The blame game: RWU confronts Internet flaws

By Nicole Da Silva
Johrden

Staff Writer

As an incoming freshman of fall 2001, Stefanie Plaud was informed of all the modern amenities Roger Williams had to offer, including personal Internet connections for each student in their dorm rooms. After hearing all the university had to offer the thousands of dollars seemed worth it to Plaud. However over the past three years Stefanie has discovered, along with most students the consistent internet problems at RWU. The internet always managed to not be working when she needed it most, when projects needed to be saved or during finals week. "No one seemed to know what was wrong or who was to blame...and it took forever to get fixed," stated Plaud.

While most people affected by Internet inconvenience believe that the university itself is to blame, they are sorely mistaken or at least in part. While RWU does in fact have a hand in the ongoing issue, the majority of responsibility actually lies with the students. With the several renovations and switch in server companies since last year, the Internet has never shut down, but what has happened is an increase in viruses on campus caused by students. RWU did not have the man power or proper equipment to monitor every computer on a growing campus and are now paying the price, literally.

Joseph Pangborn, director of information technology (IT) was hired last year to help in the struggle with RWU's malfunctioning Internet. As a result server companies were changed on Aug. 11 from the poorly clogged networks of AT&T to Oshean, a server familiar amongst post secondary institutions in Rhode Island and parts of the state government. As a result the

Internet has not yet shut down since the cross over in companies.

"AT&T's main offices are in New York, therefore when they were effected by the black out this summer the campus network would have suffered as well...we were able to avoid any effects of the black out because we transferred over Oshean just days before," stated Pangborn.

While firewalls were used last year on both administrative and dorm computers, so many AOL users were voicing problems that eventually the firewalls were taken off dorm computers; leaving them more susceptible to viruses while downloading from the Internet. In fact, the only way administrative or lab computers can be infected by a virus is when outside computers are hooked up to their network. For instance, most of the time students had problems with the Internet shutting down. It was often congested with traffic as a result of viruses. That is why a student's Internet could appear to not be functioning but still have the ability to use AOL Instant Messenger (AIM).

In addition to not being able to find servers, many students found themselves in a similar situation to that of sophomore Mark Ryan, who stated "In addition to telling my R.A., I called I.T. 1-2 times a week since I moved in late this summer. I only was able to start using my computer now in the middle of the semester." Ryan was not necessarily cast aside because he was not a priority, with only four technicians to respond to more than 2500 computers, IT simply doesn't have the manpower to answer every call in a timely fashion.

"As it is I.T. started at 1000 calls this semester and have now worked our way

down to 50 open calls spread through out our four technicians," said Pangborn. Ryan's case was a rarity, in that he had structural damage, including a broken port not giving him any computer access and inconsistent wiring from the port in his room to that of the port else where in his dorm.

As a result of insubstantial man power I.T. has no way identifying exactly which computer started a virus or has a malfunctioning port. When asked why I.T. has such a large number of calls on campus Pangborn responded, "Our job is not to maintain every computer on campus, that responsibility is the student's...with out updated anti-virus programs and firewalls, virus problems will never get solved...we are here to fix structural problems and offer assistance to students on how to properly maintain their computers...we are not babysitters."

Lack of manpower is not the only issue with the Internet, according to Pangborn, economic engineering has a part in the matter as well. Baypoint is the only dorm that can have their computers properly monitored, meaning if a computer gets infected or if a port is not functioning properly I.T. can narrow the problem down to the exact computer. Due to the fact that corners were cut in the constructing, no other dorms on campus have the proper wiring for I.T. to harrow down just who exactly has an actual virus. According to Pangborn, "corners were cut before and now have to be fixed...the university was growing in population but not in manpower or the equipment to maintain it."

When the administration was confronted on their

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Common

cont. from Page 3

university's incentive to try and find the responsible parties.

"If the school knew they were going to lose money if they didn't find the guy who did it, then I think they would work harder to catch the people who are causing the damages," said Meagan Sage.

According to Montefusco, "Most of the time it is not a priority for our staff. We just don't have enough time to investigate each individual damage report in detail."

Occasionally, however, an act is so egregious that everyone takes notice. Five years ago, intoxicated individuals used a keg to knock down several light posts in the Bayside courtyard.

The total damage cost hovered in the thousands. Dean of Student Affairs Richard Stegman, in association with public safety personnel, immediately launched an investigation. As a result, the individuals involved were identified and charged for the damage.

Tom Gontarek, the Assistant Director of Public Safety, has assisted DSL on several occasions since he joined the force 23 years ago.

In an email, Gontarek described some of the inci-

dents in which he has been involved: "Students had an unauthorized party in Willow Hall and damaged vending machines in the Willow Hall rec. room. A few students were playing ball in a Stonewall residence in which a sprinkler head was broken and caused massive water damage to several rooms in the unit."

Currently, DSL is investigating a vandalism case, which involves several instances of graffiti. To date, a light post, a man-hole cover, a cooling fan, the library call box, the side entrance sign to campus, a Whitecap dorm sign and several doors have been affected.

In each case, the vandalism has included a "tag" identifying the perpetrator as Nugz. DSL believes at least two other individuals may be involved.

"This is not just a kid who got drunk and put a hole in the wall. This is malicious," said Montefusco.

At the present time, it is still unclear who will be charged if the guilty parties are not determined. However, it is likely—since the damage is not localized to any individual unit—that the entire residential community will be charged accordingly.

"We're very concerned," said Montefusco. "We hate to bill others, but someone's got to pay."

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CAMPUS LIFE

Volume 14, Issue 10

Monday, January 26, 2004

Former King World President joins staff

By Tiago Moniz

Contributing Writer

It was announced that a new faculty member will soon join the Communications Department next year. Fred Cohen will be coming to Roger Williams as an Executive Resident; his experience in the entertainment industry will be a great benefit to the Communications program here at the university.

Fred Cohen is a 13-year King World veteran, joining the company in 1989 as president of King World international. King World is a television syndication company responsible for

five out of the top ten daily syndicated series and is responsible for distributing shows like *Wheel of Fortune*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Everybody Loves Raymond*.

After the merger of King World and CBS, Cohen assumed the additional title of executive vice president of CBS Broadcast International. Cohen retired from King World and CBS in 2002. Cohen is anticipated to be a great addition to the faculty at Roger Williams, bringing his years of experience and knowledge to the university.

Upcoming Events

Monday, Jan. 26
Senate Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 27
Intramural 5 on 5 Basketball & Indoor Soccer Captain Meeting
Women's BBall - 6 p.m.
Men's BBall - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 28
Socrates Cafe - 7 p.m.
Reality 101 - 4-6 p.m.
SAHP lecture, CAS 157 - 6p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 29
Women's BBall - 6 p.m.
Men's BBall - 8 p.m.
Expression Session - 10 p.m.
SAHP Gallery Exhibit
Friday, Jan. 30
CEN Common Ground - 9 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 31
Women's BBall - 1 p.m.
CEN Film - 8 & 11 p.m.

Wilf Chair award founded in political science

By Ty Macomber

Contributing Writer

The largest single amount of money ever donated to Roger Williams University by an individual graduate, has established the Wilf Chair award in political science, after giving half a million dollars to the university.

Orin Wilf, class of 1996, donated the large sum of money to help expand the future of RWU. Wilf was captain of the baseball team and the president of his senior class. When granting the money, he insisted a portion should go to building a baseball scoreboard and another portion should be contributed to the political science department.

The Wilf Chair in political

science is the third chair to be instituted at RWU. There is the O. Ahlberg Chair in criminal justice and the Mark Gould Chair in marine biology. Each chair is an award given to faculty and staff once a year. The Wilf Chair supports the salary of the faculty member who was received the chair.

Professor of political studies, June Speakman, has the great privilege in becoming the first annual Wilf Chair winner. Speakman began teaching at RWU in 1996 and had Wilf in three of her classes. Speakman and Wilf developed a strong relationship and continue to stay in touch to this day.

Wilf and his family own a number of shopping malls throughout New Jersey and resides in Short Hills, NJ.

Internet

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"economic engineering" Provost Edward Kavanagh responded with "We are not happy with the way things are right now and are paying a load of money to fix it." Despite students blaming the administration for faulty Internet configuration, everyone should know that the administration is now doing several things to remedy the situation.

For instance, over 3000 copies of Norton Corporate Edition were bought and issued to students, there by ensuring that every student has one of the best anti-virus programs on their computer. Norton did not come cheap, costing RWU around \$45,000. In addition to the anti-virus programs a new anti-virus server has been hooked up to the network to help in the blocking of ports and limiting the spread of viruses, such as the ever present Worm that has been attacking our campus.

The administration is also entertaining I.T.'s idea of

S.T.A.R.s for this January. S.T.A.R.s (Student Technology Advocate Resident) would basically be at least 50 students trained in the repair and maintenance of computers to go around campus answering calls and installing proper equipment to track computer viruses effectively. S.T.A.R.s will most likely be payroll employees that are kept on after the installation to update internet computing, answer calls from their designated dorms and help students learn to maintain their own computers.

Students will no longer find themselves in situations similar to sophomore Lindsay Whitesell, where she ran the school provided anti-virus software, finding she did not have any viruses but was "calling I.T. three times a week because the Internet was completely shutdown." There would no longer be a need to prioritize complaints because the manpower and equipment would now be available to I.T. to handle the computer demands of a growing campus like RWU.

As Provost Kavanagh said, "We are a growing campus and now we must respond by updating I.T. so that it can grow with our population." While measures are being taken by I.T. and administration to update the campus, students can help the university and themselves by taking precautions to limit virus activities; thereby giving themselves a more effective Internet.

Precautions to be taken include: accepting updates of patches and anti-virus software, not opening suspicious and unrecognizable emails, downloading from legitimate sites and installing a personal firewall such as Zone Alarm Pro on top of any network firewalls that will be implemented in the future.

RWU is working to better the I.T. and Internet situation on campus. However, since dorm computers are personal PCs brought from home students have a responsibility to maintain their computer and limit the spread of viruses through the network by taking the proper precautions. While the university

is looking into sub-netting the network by having individual networks for each dorm and limiting the extent to which a virus can spread Joseph Pangborn is quick to remind students that "the best thing to do to remedy the situations is to take responsibility of your own computer and be prudent in patching and updating your P.C."

Mistakes of the past are being remedied by the administration and now need to be by remedied by students. The proper maintenance of personal computers will not only limit the spread of viruses but give RWU a faster working Internet and the campus the ability to take advantage of new technologies that are available, such as the usage of two Internets on campus.

Currently students mainly use Internet 1, which is the Yahoo commodity, basically used for surfing the web, email and AIM. Most students do not realize that Internet 2 is available to them for research. Internet 2 gives students the ability to surf other school web pages for research or per-

sonal use as though they were actually students of that institution. Examples include researching on Brown's Web site, University of Rhode Island's Web site and given the proper equipment the ability for video conferencing. RWU would not have these capabilities if it did not have a working internet.

RWU is placing more of a dependency on the Internet through such sources as Blackboard for student assignments and class notes. As the it stands, servers are over crowded with viruses and are affecting students' academics by not being able to post assignment on time or being able to get the easy access to their teacher that is otherwise available to students.

So much is being offered that students are not fully aware that they have the capabilities to experience such features. It is time for students to grow with their university's population so they can reap the technological rewards of their tuition.

NATION

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Monday, January 26, 2004

Democratic Presidential Campaign 2004: The race is on and the stakes are high

By Allisyn Deyo
Staff Writer

Iowans have chosen, but the field is still wide open in the race to become the next Democratic presidential nominee. John Kerry, John Edwards, Howard Dean, and Wesley Clark are the frontrunners in a tough battle for the Democratic nomination.

Each candidate has excellent credentials and many years of public service, but the big question is who stands the best chance against President Bush in November.

In a surprise twist, Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts won the Iowa caucus with 37% of the vote. Kerry, a Yale alum, was elected to the senate four times. A war hero during Vietnam, he earned a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts while serving in the Navy.

Before being elected to the Senate, Kerry was a prosecutor in Middlesex County, and the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts. Counted among his supporters are: Senator Edward Kennedy (MA), Mayor Tom Menino of Boston, Lt. General Claudia Kennedy (ret), and several members of congress.

A strong supporter of equality, he stated, "We need to guarantee equal rights and civil rights and say that here in America, workers have the right to organize - women have the right to choose - and



justice belongs to everyone regardless of race or gender or sexual orientation."

If elected president, Kerry declares he will provide 3 million jobs in his first 500 days, reverse the Bush tax cuts, and produce an affordable health care plan.

The second place position in Iowa, with 32%, went to Senator John Edwards from North Carolina. The youngest candidate, Edwards graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a law degree in 1977. He was a trial lawyer for twenty years, and earned a reputation as someone who would fight to protect the underdogs. Edwards joined the US Senate in 1998.

As a US Senator, Edwards fought against President Bush's tax cuts, which he plans to repeal if elected president. He stated, "You and I can change America. That's what this election is about. It's about building the America you and I believe in and making our country work for all of us again. Because right now, there are two Americas. One for the powerful and another for

everyone else."

In regards to education, Edwards' "College for Everyone" plan includes a tuition-free year of college in exchange for community service, while his plan for the environment would revoke the Bush administration's rollback of the Clean Air Act and designate the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as a wilderness area never to be developed.

Edwards was endorsed



by multiple political officials in North and South Carolina and Iowa, and his website lists several hundred others.

Until Iowa, Governor Howard Dean (VT) was leading in the polls. A medical doctor, Dean received his BA from Yale University, and his MD from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. Dean began his political career in the Vermont House of Representatives, where he served from 1982 until 1986. He served as Lieutenant Governor from 1986 until the death of the governor in 1991, when he took over and has since served as governor for



over a decade.

The cornerstone of Howard Dean's campaign has been to lambaste the Bush administration on everything from tax cuts to foreign policy. A strong supporter of affirmative action and equality for all, Dean built a strong support base via the Internet.

The Howard Dean Endorsement Database lists over 3000 names including former Vice President Al Gore, actor Jim Belushi, and numerous mayors and members of congress. A common theme is Dean's personable attitude and his unflinching stance, "With me," he said, "What you see is what you get. And you're not going to like every bit of it, but you're always going to know where I stand and why I stand there."

The last of the big four is General Wesley Clark. A four-star general who spent thirty-eight years in the United States Army, Clark declined to run in Iowa, and instead set his sights on New Hampshire. A West Point graduate and Rhode Scholar, Clark served in Vietnam where

he earned a Silver Star and a Purple Heart. As Supreme Allied Commander of NATO, Clark commanded the forces in Kosovo without a single allied combat death.

Supporters of Clark contend he is the best candidate to win against President Bush, citing his military record which includes negotiation of a peace treaty, his detailed plan to end the war in Iraq which includes closer ties



with our allies, and his willingness to fight for affordable health care and environmental issues.

Clark's position is, "I'm running to bring back the core ideals of our democracy - personal liberty, open debate, and opportunity for all. These ideals have made us great. They will make us greater. They will make us safer and more prosperous. Join me. We can have a new kind of patriotism in America. We can have a new kind of America."

The New Hampshire caucus is this week, and while Dean is in the lead, Iowa proved that polling numbers could lie.

Fast news from around the globe...

-NASA reported Thursday the Spirit Rover, designed to send satellite pictures of Mars to Earth, has not been transmitting data; the cause for the communication error is unknown.

-Scientists in London have reported that juggling is healthy for you: it betters the ability to process and store visual information

-Folk singer Art Garfunkel was charged with possession for marijuana in upstate New York.

-Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's denies that an outbreak of 'bird flu' has struck their country; the flu has already been reported in Japan, Vietnam, and South Korea.

SPORTS

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Sailing towards the future: RWU looks to the NEISA this spring

By Ty Macomber

Contributing Writer

Roger Williams University sailing team is eager to take on the competition of the New England International Collegiate Sailing Association (NEISA) district, after breaking into the sailing world national rankings this year, receiving votes for the top twenty sailing teams in the nation.

This past fall, the RWU sailing team competed in regattas at Dartmouth, Yale, MIT, Tufts and hosted a home regatta called the Southern Series Two, to gear up for this spring season. The team did not disappoint the home crowd as RWU finished second overall in the home regatta.

Head coach Matt Linblad has shifted the program in the right direction after he was named waterfront director as well as the sailing coach.

Roger Williams University was one of three other teams mentioned in the last ranking, including

Navy, Minnesota and South Florida. Athletics offered at RWU are division III, with the exception of sailing, which is division I. The Roger Williams sailing program is being recognized as one with expanding talent and improvement in sailing.

Last year, through the efforts of each member of the sailing team, money was raised through T-shirt sales and donations to purchase twelve new flying junior boats, hoping to gain an advantage over their opponents. The Collegiate Flying Junior (CFJ) is a boat that falls under the strict one-design sailing classification. One design classifications ensures that each boat sailing in a particular class are equally manufactured, modified and tuned. This also ensures the highest level of competitive sailing within each class and rests the burden of winning races on the sailor, not the boat. The popular CFJ is sailed predominantly in college venues across the country. These two-person boats measure at 13 feet, 3 inches long.



Photo by Jason Turcotte

The RWU sailing team is looking to compete in the New England International Collegiate Sailing Association. Sailing is the only Division I sport at RWU.

Junior and second year captain Bobby Koar was pleased with all the help and support offered by George Kolb, the athletic director at RWU. Koar explained, "We are a team headed for the future. Our A.D. was awesome. He never said no when funds were needed for the six new boats. He's a very positive person who we owe a huge part of our success to."

The Roger Williams University sailing team has twelve total flying junior boats. If RWU can receive six more additional boats, RWU would qualify for the intersectional regatta, the biggest regatta in the country. As a result, the sailing team would be able to host major regattas at RWU, competing against west coast schools such as Stanford and even hosting European competitors as

well.

Due to RWU's acclaimed ranking, sailing has created not only a name for the team, but for the school as well. With the future possibility of hosting intersectional regattas, Koar says, "This will, more than anything, bring RWU to a national and world status."

Honors Program to hold literary event

The Roger Williams University Honors Program is beginning to plan an event that will involve the entire campus community this spring. Soon, all students, faculty, and administrators will be invited to participate in this program designed to celebrate the literary impact books have on learning and in peoples' lives. All members of the campus community can nominate their favorite book, provide a brief explanation as to why they selected that particular book, and even include a favorite quote. These entries will then be collected and presented to the campus community.

Among other things, there will be a library display and a quote reading session. Much more information will be coming to you in the spring, so look forward to hearing more about this campus wide event, and perhaps give thought to what your favorite book may be. If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions, please contact Audra Medeiros through email at: amedeiros@rwu.edu.

Come Support Your Fellow Hawks!!

Tues., Jan. 27: Women's basketball - 6 p.m.
Men's basketball - 8 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 29: Women's basketball - 6 p.m.
Men's basketball - 8 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 31: Women's basketball 1 p.m.

Don't forget to listen in to your campus radio station, WQRI (88.3 FM) for live broadcasts of RWU sports games!